SUBJECTS.

Dewan's reply.—This will be taken into consideration when the lands are assessed at the Settlement.

80. Classification and assessment with the aid of Thadasthars.

Mr. R. Narayana Pillai (Member, Ettumanur Taluk) said that the present method of classifying soils and assessing lands resulted in injustice and hardship and requested that the work might be done with the aid of respectable men of the locality as Thadasthars.

Dewan's reply.—Will be considered.

The same member also requested—

81. Appointment of natives in Government service.

(1) That natives of qualification should be appointed to Government posts, without distinction of caste or creed: and

82. Reduction in subscription for the Gazette.

(2) That the subscription of Rs. 4 for the Government Gazette should be reduced to Rs. 2 in the case of landholders with a view to increase its circulation among them.

Dewan's reply.—The suggestion will be kept in view as far as possible.

The other prayer will be noted and considered.

83. Reclamation of lands from the backwaters.

Mr. C. J. Kurien (Member, Kottayam Taluk) said that the sudden but peremptory order which Government issued some time back prohibiting reclamation of lands from the backwaters for agricultural purposes had put many people to heavy loss and caused much hardship. Government had also refused to register the lands in the names of those who had reclaimed them at much expense and inconvenience. If the order originated in the fear entertained by the Madras Government that reclamation in the Travancore backwaters would prejudicially affect the Cochin Harbour, he requested that expert and authoritative opinion might be invited for the reconsideration of the order. Should the Government after inviting expert opinion in the matter arrive at the conclusion that the order could not be cancelled, he further requested that they might order the lands, already reclaimed, to be registered in the names of the reclaimers.

Dewan's reply.—This is a matter in which Government too are deeply interested. It has been under consideration all this time and the Chief Engineer has gone into the subject. There are certain difficulties in the way which are engaging attention. Government will endeavour to meet the wishes of the people as far as the circumstances of the case will permit.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly